REMARKS

A. Overview

The present application includes claims 1-32 and 36-59.

B. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-32 and 36-56 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,169,986 to Bowman et al ("Bowman"). The rejected claims include independent claims 1, 23, 26, 36, 44, 47, 49.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim. See Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, ("MPEP"), § 2131 (8th ed. 2001). (citing Verdegaal Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) and Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989) ("The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim.")). See also Teleflex Inc. v. Ficosa North America Corp., 299 F.3d 1313, 63 USPQ2d 1374 (Fed. Cir. 2002) ("As we [the Federal Circuit] have repeatedly stated, anticipation requires that each limitation of a claim must be found in a single reference. "). General Electric Co. v. Nintendo Co., 179 F.3d 1350, 1356, 50 USPQ2d 1910, 1915 (Fed. Cir. 1999) ("[A]nticipation requires that a single prior art reference disclose every limitation in a patent claim.") (citing PPG Indus., Inc. v. Guardian Indus. Corp., 75 F.3d 1558, 1566, 37 USPQ2d 1618, 1624 (Fed. Cir. 1996)).

As stated in the prior response, Bowman relates to a SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR REFINING SEARCH QUERIES. Referring to Fig. 1, web site 130 includes a web server application 131 which processes user requests received from user computers 110 via the Internet 120. These requests include queries submitted by users to search the on-line catalog for products which are recorded in a query log 135. The web site 130 also includes a query server 132 which processes the queries by searching a bibliographic database 133 which includes information about the various products that users may purchase through the web site 130. The site also includes a database 134 of HTML content. The query server 132 includes a related term selection process 139 which identifies related query terms based on query term correlation data stored in a correlation table 137 which is generated periodically from the most recent daily query log files 135(1)-135(M) using an off-line table generation process 136. The query term correlation data stored in the correlation table 137 is used to select the related terms that best match the user's query. The search engine then

presents the related terms to the user, allowing the user to refine the search and enhance discovery of relevant information. The query term correlation data indicates relationships between query terms, and preferably contains or reflects historical information about the frequencies with which specific query terms have appeared together within the same query.

Claim 1

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner stated on pages 2-3 of the Office Action that the "storage area on a computer storage medium, the storage area storing the data files" of claim 1 corresponds to the bibliographic database 133 of Bowman (Fig. 1), "a computer configured to access the storage area" of claim 1 corresponds to the query server 132 of Bowman (Fig. 1), "a first database configured to index the data files stored in the storage area" of claim 1 corresponds to related terms list 142 of Bowman (Fig. 1), and "a program executable on the computer and configured to generate at least one automated search string, the program further configured to search the database index according to the automated search string and identify data files associated with the automated search string and to remove at least one data file from the storage area based on those data files identified from the search string" corresponds to the related terms selection process 139 of Bowman (Fig. 1).

The Examiner further clarifies the rejection by stating in a footnote on Page 3 of the Office Action:

> The search refinement method taught by bowman correspond [sic] to the step or [sic] removing data file, since the refinement basically changes the search results and that can be by deleting or removing at least one of the data files from the storage area or the search results.

The Examiner attempts to bolster the rejection on page 9 of the Office Action in stating that "the program further configured ... to remove at least one data file from the storage area [133] based on those data files identified from the search string (see column 6, lines 7-59)." As explained in more detail below, the Examiner's basis for the rejection misses the mark because the cited section does not discuss the removal of any files from bibliographic database 133 let alone the removal of files from bibliographic database 133 by the related terms selection process 139.

In order for Bowman to anticipate claim 1, the related terms selection process 139 must "remove at least one data file from the storage area" which according to the Examiner corresponds to bibliographic database 133. The section of Bowman relied upon by the Examiner (col. 6, lines 7-59) does not discuss the removal of any files from

bibliographic database 133, let alone removal of any files by related term selection process 139. Specifically all interaction with bibliographic database 133 in the cited section involves the presentation of information and the searching of bibliographic database, not the deletion of any files.[1] As such, Bowman at least does not disclose, teach, or suggest "a program ... configured to ... remove at least one data file from the storage area based on those data files identified from the search string."

For at least these reasons, the Applicant submits that the system for managing a plurality of data files for a web browser as recited in independent claim 1 is patentable over Bowman. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-22 and 57-59 depend from claim 1 and are patentably distinguishable over Bowman at least for the reasons given above in connection with claim 1 and for the further limitations of claims 2-22 and 57-59. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 2-22 and 57-59 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 23

Applicant submits that Bowman does not disclose, teach or suggest the system for managing stored data files for a web browser of claim 23 which recites "a storage area ... a computer ... a database configured to index data files stored in the storage area during a single browsing session; and a program executable on the computer configured to search the database and identify data files stored in the storage area and indexed by the database."

Bowman generates daily log files 135 that represent the daily query submissions submitted by the community of users, the daily log files 135 are used to generate the correlation tables 137. Bowman does not disclose a system wherein a database is

[1] FIG. 2 illustrates the general format of a book search page 200 of the Amazon.com web site 130 that can be used to **search** the bibliographic database 133 for book titles. ... The book search page 200 ... allow the user to initiate field-restricted **searches** for book titles. ... The term or string of terms submitted to the search engine is referred to herein as the "query." ... When the user submits a query from the book search page 200 to the web site 130, the query sever 132 **applies the query** to the bibliographic database 133.... If the query result is a single item, the item's product information page is **presented** to the user. If the query result includes multiple items, the list of items is **presented** to the user through a query result page which contains hypertextual links to the items' respective product information pages. For multiple-term queries ... the query server 132 will **search** for and return a list of all items that have both of these terms within the title. ... In accordance with the invention, the search engine uses the query term correlation data stored in the correlation table 137 to select the related terms that best match the user's query. The search engine then presents the related terms to the user, allowing the user to refine the search and enhance discovery of relevant information. The query term correlation data indicates relationships between query terms, and is used to effectively predict query terms that are likely to be helpful to the search refinement process. In accordance with another aspect of the invention, the correlation table 137 preferably contains or reflects historical information about the frequencies with which specific query terms have appeared together within the same query. (emphasis added)

configured to index data files stored in a storage area in a single browsing session. On the contrary, the log files of Bowman are a collection of a query submissions submitted during at least a portion of a multitude of browsing sessions from a multitude of users.

For at least these reasons, the Applicant submits that the system for managing stored data files for a web browser as recited in independent claim 23 is patentable over Bowman. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 23 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 24 and 25 depend from claim 23 and are patentably distinguishable over Bowman at least for the reasons given above in connection with claim 23 and for the further limitations of claims 24 and 25. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 24 and 25 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 26

Applicant submits that Bowman does not disclose, teach or suggest the method for managing a plurality of data files stored in a storage area for a web browser of amended claim 26 which recites the steps of "indexing the stored data files ... generating automated search strings ... identifying data files associated with the automated search strings; and removing at least one data file from the storage area based on those data files identified from the search."

In rejecting claim 26, the Examiner identifies bibliographic database 133 as corresponding to the data files of claim 26. Bowman does not disclose a method including the steps of identifying portions of the bibliographic database associated with an automated search strings and removing at least one portion of the bibliographic database from the storage area based on those portions of the bibliographic database identified from the search.

For at least these reasons, the Applicant submits that the method for managing a plurality of data files stored in a storage area for a web browser as recited in independent claim 26 is patentable over Bowman. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 26 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 28-32 depend from claim 26 and are patentably distinguishable over Bowman at least for the reasons given above in connection with claim 26 and for the further limitations of claims 28-32. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 28-32 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 36

Applicant submits that Bowman does not disclose, teach or suggest the system for managing a plurality of data files for a web browser of claim 36 which recites "a computer storage medium; ... a first list of network addresses stored on the computer storage medium; ... a program executable on the computer, the program configured to identify data files associated with the first list of network addresses and delete data files not associated with the first list of network addresses."

In rejecting claim 36, the Examiner identifies bibliographic database 133 as corresponding to the data files of claim 36. In response to the Applicant's statement that "it does not appear that Bowman discloses a program that identifies portions of bibliographic database 133 associated with a list of network addresses and further configured to delete other portions of bibliographic database 133 which are not associated with the list of network addresses," the Examiner on page 9 of the Office Action refers to Fig. 2 and the following text of Bowman

> The web server 131, query server 132, table generation process 136, and database software run on one or more Unix.™-based servers and workstations (not shown) of the web site 130 although other types of platforms could be used. The correlation table 137 is preferably cached in RAM (random access memory) on the same physical machine as that used to implement the query server 132. To accommodate large numbers of users, they query server 132 and the correlation table 137 can be replicated across multiple machines. The web site components that are invoked during the searching process are collectively referred to herein as a "search engine."

(Bowman col. 5, ln, 55 to col. 6, ln. 6). Assuming arguendo that the above passage discloses a list of network addresses as suggested by the Examiner, the Applicant fails to see any disclosure or teaching regarding at least a "program configured to identify data files associated with the first list of network addresses and delete data files not associated with the first list of network addresses."

For at least these reasons, the Applicant submits that the system for managing a plurality of data files for a web browser as recited in independent claim 36 is patentable over Bowman. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 36 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 37-43 depend from claim 36 and are patentably distinguishable over Bowman at least for the reasons given above in connection with claim 36 and for the further limitations of claims 37-43. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 37-43 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 44

Applicant submits that Bowman does not disclose, teach or suggest the system for managing a plurality of data files for a web browser of amended claim 44 which recites "a computer storage medium; ... a list of network addresses stored on the computer storage medium, each network address in the list of network address corresponding to at least one data file; ... and a program executable on the computer, the program configured to determine an access frequency associated with one of the data files and modify the list of network addresses based on the access frequency of the data file."

In rejecting claim 44, the Examiner identifies bibliographic database 133 as corresponding to the data files of claim 44. The Examiner does not state what portion of Bowman corresponds to the limitations that "the program [is] configured to determine an access frequency associated with one of the data files and modify the list of network addresses based on the access frequency of the data file." Bowman does not disclose modifying a list of network addresses based on an access frequency of a portion of the bibliographic database associated with a network address in the list of network addresses.

For at least these reasons, the Applicant submits that the system for managing a plurality of data files for a web browser as recited in independent claim 44 is patentable over Bowman. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 44 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 45 and 46 depend from claim 44 and are patentably distinguishable over Bowman at least for the reasons given above in connection with claim 44 and for the further limitations of claims 45 and 46. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 45 and 46 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 47

Applicant submits that Bowman does not disclose, teach or suggest the system for managing a plurality of data files for a web browser of amended claim 47 which recites "a storage area on a computer storage medium... and a program executable on the computer, the program configured to determine an access time associated with the computer accessing storage area, and further configured to delete data files in the storage area if the access time exceeds a threshold value."

In rejecting claim 47, the Examiner identifies bibliographic database 133 as

corresponding to the data files of claim 47. The Examiner does not state what portion of Bowman corresponds to the limitations that "the program [is] configured to determine an access time associated with the computer accessing storage area, and further configured to delete data files in the storage area if the access time exceeds a threshold value." Bowman does not disclose deleting portions of the bibliographic database if an access time exceeds a threshold value.

For at least these reasons, the Applicant submits that the system for managing a plurality of data files for a web browser as recited in independent claim 47 is patentable over Bowman. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 47 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 48 depend from claim 47 and is patentably distinguishable over Bowman at least for the reasons given above in connection with claim 47 and for the further limitations of claim 48. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 48 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 49

Applicant submits that Bowman does not disclose, teach or suggest the method of managing a plurality of data files for a web browser of claim 49 which recites the steps of "storing the data files on a computer storage medium; creating a first list of network addresses; ... and deleting from the computer storage medium data files not associated with the first list of network addresses."

In rejecting claim 49, the Examiner identifies bibliographic database 133 as corresponding to the data files of claim 49. Bowman does not disclose deleting from the computer storage medium portions of bibliographic database 133 not associated with a list of network addresses.

For at least these reasons, the Applicant submits that the method for managing a plurality of data files for a web browser as recited in independent claim 49 is patentable over Bowman. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 49 is in condition for allowance.

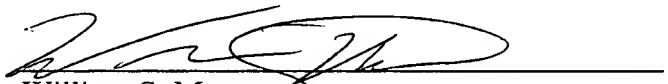
Claims 50-56 depend from claim 49 and are patentably distinguishable over Bowman at least for the reasons given above in connection with claim 49 and for the further limitations of claims 50-56. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 50-56 are in condition for allowance.

C. Final Remarks

Claims 1-32 and 36-59 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested.

If necessary, please consider this a Petition for Extension of Time to affect a timely response. Please charge any additional fees or credits to the account of Bose McKinney & Evans, LLP Deposit Account No. 02-3223. In the event that there are any questions related to these amendments or to the application in general, the undersigned would appreciate the opportunity to address those questions directly in a telephone interview to expedite the prosecution of this application for all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,
BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP



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